



○ SPRING
ISSUE

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neighborhood

news

"LINKING PEOPLE TO RESOURCES FOR A STRONGER DETROIT."

Greetings!

We are pleased to deliver our first issue of "Neighborhood News". This has been a work in progress, led by our Americorps volunteer Kenda Cooper along with NDNI staff. Throughout the last year, NDNI has worked diligently with the city of Detroit, community partners and neighborhood organizations to further enhance the quality of life in Detroit neighborhoods. In this issue, it is our hope that you will learn, laugh and have a greater outlook on life in this great city.

In this issue, you will find an important article relating to the Brightmoor land use study. We have contracted a well regarded regional expert to study Brightmoor land use. This plan will highlight potential funding opportunities and will also propose recommendations for implementation. We are excited about several prospects and look forward to a final plan culminating with the buy in of all of the stakeholders of the community. With much hard work and determination, NDNI will continue to link people to resources for a stronger Detroit.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Ogden
Executive Director

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The Vision of NDNI

To transform Detroit neighborhoods into vibrant places for people to live, work, and play.

Mission

Our mission is to reinforce, revitalize, and redevelop targeted neighborhoods into thriving communities. We address quality of life issues by fostering community engagement and economic development activities, integrating city services that leverage public and private investments, linking people to resources and providing planning and project management solutions.

REINFORCE



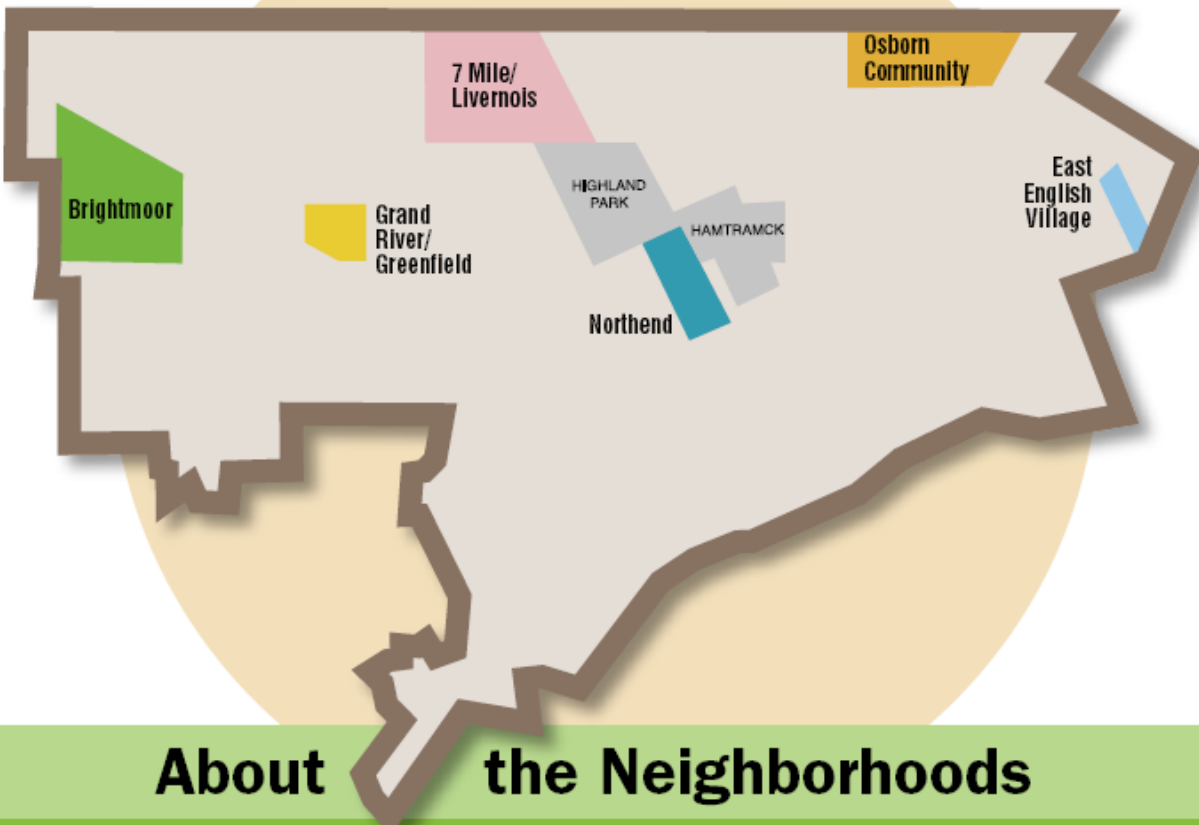
REVITALIZE



REDEVELOP



The NDNI Neighborhoods



About the Neighborhoods

Redevelopment Neighborhoods

Northend: (E. Grand Blvd. to Webb, I-75 to Woodward) Develop and implement a comprehensive community and economic development strategy that will change the physical landscape, create linkages for economic opportunity, and implement crime prevention and beautification efforts to renew the fabric of the neighborhood.

Brightmoor: (Grand River to Schoolcraft, Evergreen to Telegraph) Transform the neighborhood by utilizing aggressive redevelopment, crime reduction, and beautification strategies. Create new uses of land in order to produce a thriving, safe, and attractive community that promotes economic opportunity and stability for families.

Reinforcement Neighborhoods

7 Mile- Livernois: (6 Mile to 8 Mile, Woodward to Wyoming) "Neighborhood of Choice" for Detroit and the region by marketing neighborhood assets, creating a sustainable and viable business environment, taking aggressive measures to attract, retain and grow the middle-class tax base, and improving quality of life issues.

East English Village: (Harper to Mack, Cadieux to E. Outer Drive) Clean, safe, and beautiful "neighborhood of choice" by implementing retention and growth strategies for residents and businesses, making aesthetic improvements to commercial corridors and green space, increasing code enforcement, implementing crime prevention programs, and creating recreational destinations for families.

Revitalization Neighborhoods

Grand River- Greenfield: (Tyler to Fenkell, Greenfield to Schaefer) To utilize the Grand River- Greenfield commercial corridor as a catalyst to transform economic opportunities in the neighborhood and implement home repair programs to provide a thriving, attractive, and safe community where residents can live, shop, work, worship, and play.

Osborn: (6 Mile to 8 Mile, Gratiot to Van Dyke) A community where children and youth are a priority in terms of business development, neighborhood safety, and in the creation of a nurturing and healthy place to play, grow, and live.



Detroit City Council Member
Alberta Tinsley-Talabi



KEEP DETROIT BEAUTIFUL OVERVIEW

Detroit City Council Member Alberta Tinsley-Talabi is the Chair of the Keep Detroit Beautiful Task Force. The overall purpose of the Task Force is to act as a catalyst to connect community organizations, business leaders, church groups and ordinary residents who are committed to keeping the city beautiful.

The Task Force was started by the late Detroit City Council Member Kay Everett, in May of 2000. It has upheld its original goal, which was to beautify the city while educating its residents. Under the leadership of Council Member Alberta Tinsley-Talabi and co-chair Beverly Smith the Task Force has expanded its scope and reach to include a wide range of business, civic and community-based supporters.

The basic premise is that when like-minded people are brought together to work on a common cause the full weight of their actions and collective abilities can be brought to bear on the problem.

KEEP DETROIT BEAUTIFUL DAY

Keep Detroit Beautiful Day is designed to spur cleaning and beautification activities city-wide, while targeting certain communities for special attention.

KDB Day 2009 will take place on May 30.

For more information please visit www.keeptdetroitbeautiful.com
Article Provided by Office of Council Member Alberta Tinsley-Talabi

Detroit Neighborhood Stabilization Program: What it is and how it effects you.

In response to the national foreclosure and subprime lending crisis, in July 2008, Congress enacted the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008. Primarily designed to address the impacts of foreclosure in communities hardest hit by the crisis, this legislation aims to foster market recovery and stabilize neighborhoods. States, cities and counties will receive a total of \$3.92 billion to acquire, rehabilitate, demolish, and redevelop foreclosed and abandoned residential properties. With the realization that while these funds empower state, county and local governments to provide some level of response and relief in their respective communities, the funds allocated are by no means a comprehensive remedy to the larger crisis.

As the city with the highest home foreclosure rate among the nation's 100 largest metropolitan areas, the city of Detroit has suffered tremendous impacts as a result of this crisis. With over 67,000 foreclosed properties, 65% of which remain vacant, the City of Detroit recognizes that the \$47 million allocation must be implemented in a manner that is strategic, efficient and yields great results. Noting that Detroit faced several challenges prior to this crisis, including a shrinking population still spread across a large land mass, a market where the supply of housing exceeded the demand, a declining tax base, older housing stock, and an old infrastructure system to name a few, we recognize the need to strategically utilize these funds to stabilize neighborhoods hardest hit by the foreclosure crisis, devise proactive remedies for anticipated future foreclosure activity, and foster market recovery for enhanced quality of life.

Visit www.detroitmi.gov for more information.
Article Provided by City of Detroit's Planning & Development Department

The CENSUS and YOU

Nationwide Census Operation Comes to Michigan
Nearly 4,000 Michigan Residents Begin First Public Phase of 2010 Census

It's about a year until Census Day 2010, but area residents will be out in force in the first field operations of the massive Decennial Census. Recently employed Michigan residents are taking to the streets from mid-April to early-July to verify every address in the state. Census workers will be using hand-held computers to ensure the accuracy of the mapping process.

"This address verification process, using the best of 21st century technology, is part of our ongoing commitment to accuracy," said Detroit Regional Director Dwight P. Dean. "We are laying the foundation to get a Census questionnaire to each and every household in the state in March of 2010."

The Address Canvassing operation for Michigan began April 20. This is a phase of the Census Bureau's address verification process, which began with a Master Address file corroborated with local municipalities and the US Postal Service. That program, the Local Update of Census Addresses, took place last year. There will be one final opportunity to add new home construction in early 2010 prior to the mailing of the census questionnaires. Census workers can be identified by the official Census Bureau badge they carry. During the address canvassing operation, census workers may ask to verify a housing structure's address and whether there are additional living quarters on the property.

All census information collected, including addresses, are confidential and protected by law. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share respondents' answers with the public or other government agencies. No court of law or law enforcement agency can find out respondents' answers. All Census Bureau employees — including temporary employees — take an oath for life to keep census information confidential. Any violation of that oath is punishable by a fine of up to \$250,000 and five years in prison.

The 2010 Census is the largest peacetime operation conducted by the federal government and is the basis for the reapportionment of congressional seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. The census is also used to help distribute more than \$300 billion in federal funding to tribal, state and local governments every year.

Visit www.census.gov for more information.
Article Provided by Detroit Regional Census Center

NDNI's Resource Guide

COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE

Complaints/ Service Requests for Detroit Residents:

311 or 313-224-INFO (4636)

Detroit H.U.D. Office/
H.U.D.

Property Maintenance Complaints:

313-226-6280

Demolition of Vacant/ Abandoned Buildings Info:

313-628-2660

Planning & Development Department Block Grant:

313.224.3532

Handicap Sign Request (DPW Sign Shop):

313.628.2930

Street Lights Out:

313-224-4636

Water & Sewage Department (DWSD):

313-267-7401

Detroit Youth Year Round Employment Program:

313-628-2230

Building Complaints/ Inspections (BSE):

313-224-2733

Healthy Living

Adult Dental Resources:

U-D Mercy Dental Program- 2 Locations to Serve You!!!

4201 St. Antoine or 2700 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Detroit, MI 48201 Detroit, MI 48208

Call 313-494-6700 to make an Appointment.

The Michigan Department of Community Health

(MDCH) now has a website offering FREE information to Michigan residents on a variety of free and low- cost health programs such as community health centers, free clinics, community Dental care programs, assistance with prescriptions, cancer screenings and treatment programs, local public health departments, family planning, Medicaid enrollment, and more. Visit :

<http://www.michigan.gov/healthcarehelp>

for information on the above services and

<http://www.michigan.gov/mdch> for additional information.

Nutritious Summer Salad Recipe

FRUIT SALAD with CREAMY YOGURT DRESSING

This easy recipe is perfect when pears and apples come into season. Don't worry if you have all the fruits, just use what you have available.

3 bananas

2 fresh apples peeled/chunked

2 fresh pears, cored and chunked

1/2 cup seedless golden raisins

1/2 cup broken pecan pieces

Dressing, Mix together:

1/2 cup yogurt

2 TB honey

1/2 tsp cinnamon,

dash salt.

Add fruit, raisins, and pecans to dressing mixture. Chill thoroughly before serving. For more color - leave skins on apples and pears.



TOP TIPS FOR COOLING YOUR HOME

1) Seal Air leaks and insulate

These really pay off for keeping down heating bills, but they'll also help keep the heat out in the summer.

2) Close the blinds and shades.

This is especially important in southern and western windows to keep out that hot sun. To go one step further, you can even put up a reflective surface (like aluminum foil) or window films that block out heat.

3) Ventilate well

Be sure to bring in the cool night air, using fans, then close up windows to trap the cool inside the house. The key is to create an air current that moves through the whole house. If just using one fan, place it pointing out of the house on one side, and open another window to draw air in on the other side of the house. If using two fans, place one going out on one side of the house, and the other pointing in on the other side -- this will create a strong, cool breeze blowing through the whole house, emptying out the hot air and bringing in cool air. It's important to have sealed up air leaks throughout the house first for this to work best.

Other ideas:

a) keep window air conditioners out of the sun - preferably on the north or east side of the house

b) use a fan to distribute cool air from an air conditioner. Fans cost a lot less to operate than air conditioners, so this will help maximize your dollar for the cooling effect.

c) Don't turn the air conditioner too low. It won't cool things faster, and will **COST** more money to run.

d) plant a tree on the south or southwest side of the house, so that it'll provide shade for the home during the summer. This can offset cooling costs dramatically -- but the trees take a while to grow!

e) When purchasing new appliances make sure they have the Energy Star Logo. Visit their website at www.energystar.gov

May is Drinking Water Month in Detroit!!! This time is taken to spotlight the Detroit Water & Sewerage Department's (DWSD) role in providing quality drinking water to Southeast MI. This year's theme is "Only Tap Water Delivers"

Everyday Actions People Can Take to Stay Healthy and Avoid the Flu.

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.

Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

Influenza is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through coughing or sneezing of infected people.

If you get sick, CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

For more information on staying healthy visit the Center for Disease Control website at www.cdc.gov.

Did You Know?

Eating a diet rich in fruits and vegetables as part of an overall healthy diet may:

- reduce risk for stroke and perhaps other cardiovascular diseases.
- reduce risk for type 2 diabetes.
- protect against certain cancers, such as mouth, stomach, and colon-rectum cancer.

For more tips on eating healthy visit www.mypyramid.gov

Safe Routes to School

NDNI is proud to be involved in the effort, along with the Michigan Fitness Foundation, Skillman Foundation, LISC Detroit, Michigan State Housing Development Authority, and the Michigan Department of Transportation, to make children's routes to school safer in the Brightmoor and Osborn neighborhoods. Safe Routes to School (SR2S) is a movement to make it safe, convenient and fun for children to bicycle and walk to school. When routes are safe, walking or biking to and from school is an easy way to get the regular physical activity children need for good health. SR2S initiatives also help ease traffic jams and air pollution, and unite neighborhoods. NDNI coordinated the efforts of City of Detroit Departments to assess infrastructure needs like sidewalk repairs, traffic signals and signs, and dangerous structures that need demolition. By encouraging children to walk to school and by engaging the community to ensure that our children are safe, we will achieve healthy, and wholesome neighborhoods.

-Jeffrey Jones



Lt. Governor John Cherry and students of Murphy Middle School pose with check for Safe Routes to School Program.

"Get Fit NOW" with NDNI and Generation Fit Kids Program

NDNI is sponsoring the Detroit Generation Fit Kids Program. Generation Fit Kids is a free 16-week program held at The Matrix Center for youth ages 8-12. The objective is to offer fun and innovative ideas for children in order to teach them the positive benefits of fitness, proper nutrition and living a healthy lifestyle. This community program empowers youth to dedicate themselves to healthy living in an effort to build self-esteem and stronger minds and bodies for the future. The program ends June 2009 highlighted with an end of program award celebration in July with invited speaker, Sergeant Harvey Walden of Celebrity Fit Club.

-Patricia Ford



Osborn area children exercise with fitness expert and nutritionist, Callie Bradford during a Generation Fit Kids session.

"Corridor Keeper" Program

NDNI collaborated with Detroit Community Initiative (DCI) to promote the "Keep Detroit Beautiful" Sign Blitz and a Tire Sweep. DCI was able to collect over 3000 tires during the sweep and reward community groups that registered \$.50 per tire.

The initial target for the Sign Blitz was 7 Mile Road from I-94 on the east to Telegraph on the west. This will spread to other major roads and side streets throughout the summer. Approximately 750 illegal signs were removed from the curbside and poles just on 7 Mile Road between Hayes on the east to Wyoming to the west. While removing illegal signs, the community organizations passed out the "Corridor Keeper", *Property Maintenance Education and Compliance Guide brochure* to educate businesses on potential code violation.

-Patricia Ford

For more information or to request a copy of the "Corridor Keeper" email kendac@next-detroit.org.

Let's Make A Change

The students of the Detroit International Academy (DIA)'s scientific research class decorated cardboard cartons to hold recyclable paper in the classrooms of their school. The individually crafted collection boxes were distributed around the school along with a notice encouraging teachers to join their eco-friendly project, an in-school paper recycling drive.

As part of the NDNI partnership with Recycle Here! and Detroit Public Schools, the all-girls academy is competing with four other DPS schools to collect the most newspaper, mixed paper and cardboard. Paper is collected in the classrooms, school offices and can be brought in from home.

The NDNI two-month paper collection contest began in March 2009 for five additional DPS schools located in NDNI neighborhoods.

The schools competing in the NDNI funded program are Bates Academy, Brenda Scott Middle School, Detroit Intl Academy, Finney High School and Harding Elementary.

-Helen Broughton



Detroit Int'l Academy teacher, Carol Martin, shows off student artwork on recycling bins at the March program kick-off.



Finney High School students help load paper into the Recycle Here! truck.

Community Highlights

Featured Communities: Grand River– Greenfield and Brightmoor

Community Empowerment

Grand River Greenfield Community

Saturday, June 6th

11 am until 2 pm
15120 Grand River

The Empowerment Group

Contact D'Nita White at
(313) 629-1900 for more info

Learn about NSP, upcoming initiatives, DHS Weatherization
Health Screening * Substance Abuse * Mobile Dentist
Block Clubs * Community Associations * Mayor's Office * Neighborhood City Hall

Sponsored by Empowerment Group & Next Detroit Neighborhood Initiative

FAIR

GRAND RIVER- GREENFIELD
Changing the face of Detroit
One neighborhood at a time

FUN for the FAMILY

Brightmoor Land Use Plan

NDNI, in partnership with Detroit LISC, contracted a regional consultant to conduct a major land use study in the Brightmoor neighborhood to help guide redevelopment strategies to include:

- Developing an analysis of the neighborhood which includes: an inventory of the number, types, current zoned use, condition, and ownership of properties as well as an assessment of infrastructure.
- Demographic, cultural, physical, and environmental assets and opportunities that have had significant impact on the area.

Working closely with the community and city departments, the consultant has gathered information about Brightmoor and how the neighborhood functions, as well as gaining input to develop a community vision for the future of the neighborhood. The Brightmoor Land Use study provides an honest and in depth look into what people look for in a community and how that information will translate into a revitalized community.

This recent study has included segments on interstate impact, housing values, schools, tax base, street operation costs, demographics, parks and recreations, vacant lots, mortgage foreclosure, and fragmented land management to name a few. It is our desire to see the residents of the Brightmoor community have all the necessities and resources they need provided in the 4.0 square mile neighborhood they reside in.





CALENDAR

Summer 2009

Community Events

OSBORN— Patricia Ford: patriciaf@next-detroit.org

- May 16 - Von Steuben Community Block Club meeting
@ Our Lady of Good Council Church, 17142 Rowe St.
11:00 am
- May 20 - Detroit Community Initiative 3rd Annual Community Builders Luncheon
@ American Serbian Memorial Hall -Call 313-368-0240 for more information
12:00 - 2:00 pm
- May 20 - Mohican Regent Community meeting
@Joshua Temple, 20247 Regent
6:30 pm
- May 28 - Von Steuben Community Council meeting
@ Our Lady of Good Council Church, 17142 Rowe St.
7:00 - 8:00 pm
- May 28 - We Care Community meeting

BRIGHTMOOR— Jeffrey Jones: jeffreyj@next-detroit.org

- May 16- 22nd Annual Brightmoor May Day Parade & Celebration
@ Mount Vernon MB Church, 15125 Burt Road (just south of Fenkell)
9:45 a.m.-4 p.m.
- May 18- Police Community Relations Meeting
@ Bushnell Congregational Church, 15000 Southfield Fwy.
7:00pm
- May 21- 8TH Annual Unity in the Community,
@ Detroit Community High School 12675 Fenkell
5 p.m

NORTHEND- Jeffrey Jones: jeffreyj@next-detroit.org

- May 21- Melbourne Street Block Club Meeting
@ The Family Place, 8726 Woodward Ave.
6:00pm
- August 8- Jazz on John R @ John R & King Streets
11am - 7pm

Grand River— Greenfield— Monica Smith: monicas@next-detroit.org

- May 16- Spring Clean— Up Grand River & Greenfield Area
@ Greater Marion Chapel, 15120 Grand River
9:00am-12:00pm
- May 18- Police Community Relations Meeting
@ Bushnell Congregational Church, 15000 Southfield Fwy.
7:00pm
- May 26- Empowerment Group Community Meeting
@ Greater Marion Chapel, 15120 Grand River
7:00pm
- June 6- Community Empowerment Fair
@ Greater Marion Chapel, 15120 Grand River
11:00am-3:00pm
- June 13- Calvary U.M.C. Community Association Meeting
@ Calvary United Methodist Church, 15050 Hubbell
2:00pm-3:00pm

7 Mile— Livernois— Helen Broughton: helenb@next-detroit.org

Bagley Community Council—bagleycommunity.blogspot.com
Community Meeting: third Saturday of month at 10am @ DPD 12th Precinct
(formerly Western District), 1441 West Seven Mile

Greenacres Woodward Civic Association

Community Meeting: third Wednesday of month at 7pm @ St. John the Baptist Church

Palmer Woods Association—www.palmerwoods.org

Music in Homes: Violinist Gabriel Bolkosky & pianist Sarah Bob, Sat., May 30 and Violinist Jannina Barefield & violist Jason Amos, Sat., June 20th
Palmer Park Green Art Fair: Sunday, June 28th 2-7pm around the Palmer Park Log Cabin Pond

Sherwood Forest Association—www.sherwoodforestdetroit.org

University Commons Organization—www.universitycommonsdetroit.org

- May 17- 75th Anniversary Fundraiser to save Bakers Keyboard Lounge
Baker's Keyboard Lounge, 20510 Livernois Ave.
5:00pm
- June 6th - Spring into Summer Community Celebration Parade & Family Fun Day
11:00AM on Livernois
- June 11th- Livernois Avenue Meet & Greet, 7pm
@ Eric's I've Been Framed 16527 Livernois
- June 13th- Home and Neighborhood Tour, 12 noon
12th Precinct Neighborhood Coalition & University Commons

East English Village— Helen Broughton: helenb@next-detroit.org

East English Village— CEM Business Association 2009 Clean/ Project Dates
Saturdays— 9:00AM- 12:00PM- VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED!!!

- May 30th— Keep Detroit Beautiful Day.
Activities include: Plant Balduck, Plant Annuals in Planters, Paint a Building
- June 13th— No Clean Up— East English Village Garage Sale
- July 11th— Clean Day
- August 8th— East Warren Parent Resource Fair
- August 16th- No Clean Up— Motor City Road and Track Bike Show @ Balduck (SUNDAY)
- September 26th— Clean Day
- October 17th— Clean Day
- October 31st— No Clean Up— East Warren Avenue Fall Fest

East English Village Association

www.eastenglishvillage.org

Community Meeting (starting in June): second Wednesday of month at 7pm, light supper 7:30pm meeting at Saint Clare Montefalco, 1401 Whittier
Neighborhood Wide Garage Sale: June 13 & 14
East Warren Farmers Market: Saturdays through October, 10am – 3pm

CEM (Cornerstone-East English Village-Morningside) Business Association

www.usnapbac.org/cem_business_association

Monthly meeting: first Wednesday of month at 8am. Location changes monthly, contact 313-882-8920



Visit Our Drop— Off Center:
1331 Holden
Wednesdays 10AM-2PM

SATURDAY NEIGHBORHOOD DROP— OFFS

1st Saturday of Each Month

Eastern Market
10AM-2PM
Corner of Wilkens and Russell

2nd Saturday of Each Month

Corktown
10AM-2PM
Roosevelt Park

East English Village
8AM-12PM
E. Warren Ave.

3rd Saturday of Each Month

Palmer Park
8AM-12PM
Swimming Pool Lot

Rosedale Park
10AM-2PM
Christ the King Church

4th Saturday of Each Month

Clark Park
8AM-12PM
Se Habla Español

Creskide
10AM-2PM
Jefferson & Chalmers

SAVE THE DATE

NEIGHBORHOODS DAY 2009

Saturday, August 1, 2009

Don't miss this opportunity to join in on the celebration of neighborhoods all across the Detroit area!!! Come out for:

- Food
- Fun
- Information

*Visit
www.ARISEDETROIT.org
to register your
organization.*



Special thanks to NDNI Staff: Steven A. Ogden, Executive Director, Monica Smith, Sr. Community Manager, Helen Broughton, Community Manager, Jeffrey Jones, Community Manager, Patricia Ford, Community Project Manager, Tonya Gray, Project Manager, and Valeria Bond, Administrative Assistant.

We would also like to thank our Board of Directors.



7310 Woodward Ave. Ste. 403,
Detroit, MI 48202